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"Teach All Nations"

KINGDOM NEWS

"The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."—Matthew 3:2

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TWO GREAT BATTLES RAGING FALL OF AUTOCRACY CERTAIN

SATANIC STRATEGY DOOMED TO FAILURE

DRAMA OF AGES UNFOLDS

The autocratic Kaiser with his bloodthirsty hordes are pressing hard the Allies in France and Belgium. The past few weeks have marked the greatest conflict of the war. The Kaiser and his generals seem to have staked everything upon this drive, and hence have recklessly sacrificed human lives. One division after another has been thrown forward, until at times the battle front is so choked with dead German bodies that further progress for a time is impossible. The ambition of man, when controlled by evil influence, knows no bounds. Should the Kaiser succeed in his ambition, he would establish autocratic rule throughout the earth. That would greatly increase the oppression and sorrows of mankind. Every lover of liberty and righteousness is anxious to know what will be the result of this conflict. **The Kaiser will not succeed. Autocracy is doomed; and it is but a short time until it shall perish from the earth. A clear understanding of the facts set forth in this issue will make plain to the reader why the Kaiser cannot succeed and why Satan and his autocratic agencies shall be forever destroyed.**

The greatest drama of the ages is now reaching a climax. It has been in progress for more than sixty centuries. To the watchers its progress has opened the eyes of their understanding to an appreciation of God's wonderful plan. The earth is the stage and all the people of earth, as well as spirit beings, are players. Satan is the chief villain, aided by a large retinue of servants and adherents. Christ Jesus is the great hero, whose **complete triumph in every respect is absolutely certain.** When the grand finale is reached, amidst music of unsurpassed sweetness and with joy that shall fill the whole universe, every creature in heaven and on earth will bow the knee and confess that Christ is the Messiah, to the glory of God.

This great drama opens in Eden, the garden of God, with Adam and Eve, the perfect pair in possession, clothed with divine power and authority to multiply and fill the earth and to establish in earth a perfect kingdom of men and for men. They were without experience and needed an overseer and instructor. Lucifer, an angel possessed of great beauty and wisdom, was placed in Eden to oversee and instruct the perfect human pair. He observed that Jehovah had granted to man the authority to establish a kingdom on earth, in which the perfect man would have dominion over all things. As their guardian, Lucifer sought to steal the inheritance of his wards. The Prophet of the Lord describes Lucifer in Eden as a wise and beautiful creature, and how he sinned and thereby became Satan, thus: "Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God; thou art the anointed cherub that covereth [officially appointed to act as man's overseer]; and I have set thee so. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."—Ezekiel 28:13-19.

Selfish ambition entered Lucifer's heart and he reasoned thus: "I am far greater than man. Why has not God granted me an exclusive dominion?" Jealousy was in his heart, leading him to determine to gain control of the perfect man and woman and all their offspring, and thus establish a dominion of his own. In his heart he meditated: "I will ascend into heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. I will be like the Most High." (Isaiah 14:13, 14) Here Lucifer fell from God's favor; and, losing his beauty of character, became Satan, designated as "that old serpent, the devil"—the author and instigator of all the wickedness that has cursed mankind.

God had commanded that Adam and Eve should not eat of certain fruit in the Garden of Eden, saying, "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." (Genesis 2:17) To accomplish his selfish purpose, Satan seduced Eve by convincing her that God was lying and thereby depriving them of their just rights by not permitting them to eat of the forbidden fruit. He said to Eve: "God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof your eyes shall be opened; and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. **Ye shall not surely die."** (Genesis 3:4, 5) This was the first lie ever told. (John 8:44) Mother Eve fell under the false representations; and then Satan put the thought into her mind to induce Adam likewise to violate the command of God, by suggesting to his mind that if he did not follow her course they would be forever separated. And so Adam wilfully violated the commandment of God. Thus Satan had broken down the will of the perfect pair and assumed control of them by injecting evil thoughts into the mind.

The judgment of God followed swiftly upon Adam and Eve. They were driven from their home in Eden into the unfinished earth, there to earn their bread in the sweat of their face. In sorrow Eve must bear her children. In pronouncing this judgment, Jehovah said to Satan: "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between **thy seed and her seed;** it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15) There God definitely declared that there would be two seeds, the **seed of the woman** and the **seed of Satan;** and that from that day forward there would be enmity between the two. Subsequent developments in the great drama of Jehovah as set forth in the Bible show that the "Seed of the woman" here mentioned is The Christ—Jesus, the Head, and his faithful followers, the members of his body; and that **the seed of Satan is the great Papal ecclesiastical system, the "mother of harlots" and her "daughters," the other systems of churchianity of which Satan seized control. (Revelation 17:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4) The proof of this, which follows, explains all the religious intolerance and wicked persecution of Christians in the earth during the past nineteen hundred years.**

ANGELS IN CONTROL

Satan was deprived of his position as overseer of man. Adam having lost his right of dominion, there was none in the earth with authority. Horrified at the results of Lucifer's wrongful course, the angels of heaven (sons of God) desired to uplift man; and God permitted them to attempt the task. (Hebrews 2:5; Genesis 6:1-5) These angels were granted the power to materialize in human form and to assume dominion over the affairs of earth. Satan determined that he would not be thwarted in his purpose. With malignant heart he set about to seduce these angels, his former companions in glory, and through them to retain control of man. He put it into their minds to take wives from amongst the daughters of men, which they did, thereby leaving their lofty estate. Thus Satan caused the angels to sin and fall. The offspring of this unholy alliance and their progenitors filled the earth with violence; and God announced his determination to destroy all flesh in the earth. This he did in the great Deluge.

Noah and family, eight in all, not having been contaminated by these evil ones, received favor in God's sight and were saved in the ark which Noah builded at the direction of Jehovah. Having power to materialize, this host of angels also had the power to dematerialize and again assume spirit bodies. Hence, when the great Deluge came, they were not destroyed. The Bible plainly tells us that they were restrained of their liberty, being confined in the darkness of the atmosphere near the earth. "God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to *tartarus*, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." (2 Peter 2:4) "The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains, under darkness, unto the judgment of the great day." (Jude 6) In this condition of restraint, as the Lord declared, they were to be kept until their judgment day. In the interim they have not been permitted to assume human form. God has arranged that when the time of their final judgment arrives, they must be released and granted more power, because it is repugnant to his way of dealing to put one on trial who is already undergoing a sentence. Since the great Deluge, they have had power to communicate with the human race **only through the instrumentality of willing mediums; and in this respect their power has decidedly increased in recent years.**

IMPERSONATE THE DEAD

In the Scriptures, Satan is designated as "the prince of devils" or demons. (Matthew 12:24) In some manner Satan has dominated the other demons or devils. He is spoken of as "the prince of the power of the air" and "the god of this world." (Ephesians 2:2; 2 Corinthians 4:4) **Satan's first lie was that communicated to Mother Eve: "Ye shall not surely die!" and ever since, he has kept before the minds of humanity the falsehood: "There is no death." The theory that every man has an immortal soul finds its only basis in this lie of Satan.** Without that falsehood, the doctrine of eternal torture could never have found a lodging place in the minds of reasonable men. Satan has ever kept before man's mind that the dead are **alive**—even more so than before death. The evil spirits, styled demons, under the control of Satan, have aided him in carrying out this great falsehood. They are referred to in the Scriptures as "lying spirits."

The methods used by the evil spirits through the medium at Endor were similar to those in use today. (1 Sam. 28:7-20) From the days of the Flood until now these evil ones have been able to communicate only with those who willingly submit themselves to their influence. Some have become willing mediums. The demons often influence the mind of a human being, causing insanity or lunacy. When Jesus was on earth, he cast out many of these demons, as did also the apostles.—See Matthew 9:32, 33; 10:8; 12:22; Mark 5:1-20; 9:17-27; Luke 9:38-42.

In recent years these demons have been able to overreach some of the brightest minds amongst men, as the subsequent facts will show.

SATAN'S LIE DISPROVED

Man is a soul. He does not possess a soul. The Bible's description of the manner of his creation reads: "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man **became a living soul."** (Genesis 2:7) A soul is a living, breathing creature. The word "soul" is synonymous with the word "being." Every being is a soul. God declared, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:4) An immortal creature cannot die. Satan himself is not immortal, because he will be destroyed. (Hebrews 2:14) The Apostle Paul asserted, "God only hath immortality" (1 Timothy 6:16); and that God promised and grants immortality to the "Seed of the woman"—The Christ, Head and body. (John 5:26; Romans 2:7; 1 Corinthians 15:53, 54) Jehovah and The Christ (Jesus and his church) possess immortality; no others do or ever will.

DECEPTION BY DEMONS

When God made the law covenant with Israel, he safeguarded them against the demons by providing in the Mosaic law that any one who would consult witches, wizards or mediums should be put to death. (Exodus 22:18; Leviticus 19:31; 20:6, 27) Saul, the king of Israel, became evil, and God withdrew his favor from him. The king then sought the witch of Endor, a spiritualistic medium, to consult her. He disguised himself so that she would not fear being put to death when he came to interview her. The demons on this occasion impersonated the Prophet Samuel, who was dead; **they lied to Saul and caused his overthrow.** The fallen spirits are not only well informed in respect to all the affairs of earth, but they are also adepts in deceit.

"WHY DO YOU CALL ME GOD?"

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SATAN'S WICKED COURSE

It is clear from the Scriptures that Satan believed the "Seed of the woman," according to the promise, was to be only a human seed. Children were born to Adam and Eve. Two of their sons, Cain and Abel, came to offer sacrifice unto God. Abel's sacrifice was more acceptable than that of Cain; and he therefore found favor in God's sight. Satan at once recognized Abel as the promised seed, and immediately injected into the mind of Cain a desire to murder his brother, which Cain did. **From that time on, Satan sought to destroy every person who seemed to have the favor of God.** Jehovah promised Abraham and Sarah that they should have an heir who would be a child of promise. Satan sought in vain to contaminate this seed by having Sarah debauched by Pharaoh, an instrument of the devil. In time, Esau became an heir to the promise. Satan induced Esau to sell his birthright to Jacob, and then put it in the mind of Esau to kill Jacob.

God then made promise to Jacob that his offspring would be identified with the Seed of promise; and God organized the nation of Israel and recognized them as he did no other people, and to Israel was given the promise. Satan thereupon injected into the minds of the people of every nation round about Israel the desire to destroy God's chosen people; and from time to time they made war upon the Israelites. The Lord manifested his power in delivering them so long as that nation was faithful to him. Finally the promise was confined especially to the house of David, and, being influenced by Satan, Saul was possessed of a fiendish desire to kill David, which he many times attempted to do. The Scriptures clearly show that David was a type of the real Seed, according to the promise.

In due time, Jesus was born, as a manchild. All the prophets of Israel had foretold the birth of the new King. He was the heir of promise. Satan recognized him as the Seed and immediately put it into the mind of King Herod to kill the young child; and to accomplish this purpose, the king caused all the children of Judea, under two years of age, to be slaughtered.

THE SEED OF PROMISE

God made promise that the "Seed of the woman" should not only bruise the serpent's head, but should ultimately destroy the "Seed of the serpent," establish a government of righteousness in the earth, and bring blessings to all the groaning creation. He specifically made this promise to Abraham, saying, "In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 22:1-18) The Apostle Paul particularly identifies this promise with Jesus **and the church—the members of his body—denominating such as the "Seed of the woman," as promised. (Galatians 3:16, 27-29)** The development of this Seed began when Jesus consecrated at the Jordan and was there baptized. He immediately went into the wilderness and Satan, recognizing Jesus as the "Seed," sought the first opportunity to destroy him. (Matthew 4:1-11) When Jesus died upon the cross, Satan doubtless thought he had succeeded in his purpose to destroy the "Seed." Subsequently, however, Jesus arose from the dead and ascended on high. That was a surprise and disappointment to Satan.

At Pentecost, the body members composing the remainder of the "Seed of promise," began to be selected and developed, which work has progressed until now. The body members of this "Seed" are designated in the scriptures under various names, such as, the church, the bride class, the wheat, the Lord's jewels, etc. Some of these have been found in the Catholic and Protestant churches all through the age. The great Master gave a parable of the wheat and the tares (Matthew 13:24-40), showing that the "wheat" represents those who will be of the kingdom of God; while the "tares" are the children or offspring of the devil. He stated that both would grow in the same organizations until the end of the Gospel age, at which time the separation would take place. During the Gospel age, **millions** have been brought into the various church systems, **but the Lord definitely states that only 144,000 will be in the body of Christ,** constituting the "Seed" according to the promise. (Revelation 7:4; 14:1-3) To this class God gives his exceeding great and precious promises; and only to those who are overcomers of the world, the flesh and the devil will he grant a share with him in his kingdom. Satan and his cohorts have ever sought to destroy this "Seed" of promise; but God has safeguarded that "Seed" as the "Apple of his eye."

SATAN'S SEED

Development of the spiritual "Seed" according to the promise began with the baptism of Jesus at the Jordan. Satan understood that the "Seed" of promise was a seed only according to the flesh, and continued in this thought until Jesus arose from the dead. Then he began to get more light upon God's purposes. At Pentecost he saw the beginning of the selection of men to whom it was declared that if they would prove faithful unto death they should be of the "Seed" according to the promise, this "Seed" being designated as the church, or body of Christ. Thereupon Satan set about to devise ways and means to offset the "Seed" of promise by developing a "Seed" of his own; and in due time he had his "Seed" in full operation.

Antichrist means **against Christ, or instead of Christ.** The Christ—Jesus, the Head, and the members of the church, his body—being the "Seed" according to the promise, it follows that Satan's "Seed," which claims to be in place of Christ, is against Christ, therefore Antichrist. Even in the days of the apostles Satan was perfecting his plans to establish the Antichrist—his "Seed." (See 1 John 2:18-27) **Any creature that would attempt to reign as the representative of Christ would therefore be Antichrist.**

Ambition was the cause of Lucifer becoming Satan, and Satan has ever sought to put the same ambitious desire into the mind of one he would control. **Satan is an autocrat, and every autocrat has been one of Satan's tools.** Rome, having become a world power, began to lose that power under the rulership of Constantine. Christianity was on the increase. Satan desired to corrupt Christianity and to establish a counterfeit of Christ's kingdom. He induced the autocratic Constantine to believe that if he would profess Christianity, this would result beneficially to his kingdom. And Constantine did profess Christianity. **Thereby Satan accomplished a two-fold purpose, viz., the corrupting of Christianity by uniting civil and ecclesiastical power, and there began the development of his own "Seed," the Antichrist.**

In course of time, Pagan Rome became Papal Rome and dominated the peoples of the earth. The following quotation from Lord's **Old Roman World,** showing how Satan corrupted the early Christian Church by uniting politics and religion, and established his own "Seed," will be read with interest:

THE BIRTH OF ANTICHRIST

"It was not till the Fourth Century—when Constantine was converted; when the church was allied with the state; when the early faith was itself corrupted; when superstition and vain philosophy had entered the ranks of the faithful; when bishops became courtiers; when churches became both rich and splendid; when synods were brought under political influence; when monachists [monks] had established a false principle of virtue; when politics and dogmatics went hand in hand, and emperors enforced the decrees of [church] councils—that men of rank entered the church. When Christianity became the religion of the court and of the fashionable classes, it was used to support the very evils against which it originally protested. The church was not only impregnated with the errors of Pagan philosophy, but it adopted many of the ceremonies of oriental worship, which were both minute and magnificent.

"The clergy, ambitious and worldly, sought rank and distinction. They even thronged the courts of princes and aspired to temporal honors. They were no longer supported by the voluntary contributions of the faithful, but by revenues supplied by government, or property inherited from the old [pagan] temples. Great legacies were made to the church by the rich, and these the clergy controlled. These bequests became sources of inexhaustible wealth. As wealth increased and was intrusted to the clergy, they became indifferent to the wants of the people—no longer supported by them. They became lazy, arrogant and independent. The people were shut out of the government of the church. The bishop became a grand personage, who controlled and appointed his clergy. **The church was allied with the state,** and religious dogmas were enforced by the sword of the magistrate.

"An imposing hierarchy was established, of various grades, which culminated in the Bishop of Rome. The Emperor decided points of faith, and the clergy were exempted from the burdens of the state. There was a great flocking to the priestly offices when the clergy wielded so much power and became so rich; and men were elevated to great sees [bishoprics], not because of their piety or talents, but by their influence with the great. **The mission of the church was lost sight of in a degrading alliance with the state.** Christianity was a pageant, a ritualism, an arm of the state, a vain philosophy, a superstition, a formula."

The Scriptures show that the "Seed of the woman" is The Christ—Jesus the Head, and the church his body. Jesus himself designates the members of his church as a "little flock." (Luke 12:32) When Satan organized his "Seed," he had the Bishop of Rome made the head, designating him as Pope, who assumed the title of Vicegerent of Christ, or the one reigning in Christ's stead; and the cardinals and bishops and clergy in general are designated as the "hierarchy," composing the "little flock"; while all those who come into the Papal system are in fact "children of the church." The hierarchy is the sacred governing body of the system, the word "church" being applied to the entire system. Murphy, a well known Catholic author, in **The Chair of Peter** (page 504), says: "The hierarchy is the body of clergy of divine institution, governing the church; and, as defined by the Council of Trent, is composed of bishops, priests and deacons, or ministers."

"GREAT SWELLING WORDS"

The Pope, the head of the "Seed" of Satan, is the earthly spokesman for that "Seed." The Lord foretold that he would speak great swelling words, saying, "There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven." (Revelation 13:5, 6) Monsignor Capel, a Roman Catholic writer of note, gives a list of high-sounding titles claimed by the Pope, of which the following are samples:

"Head of all the Holy Churches"
"Chief of the Universal Church"
"Vicar of Christ"
"Key-bearer of the Kingdom of Heaven"
"Ruler of the House of the Lord"
"High Priest, Supreme Bishop"
"Head of all the Holy Priests of God"
"Christ by Unction"
"Infallible Pope"

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Satan would have the people believe that the Pope is an absolute autocrat who has the power to make laws and to ignore all laws of others, even God's law. The following, from Fox's **Acts and Monuments**, by H. G. Guinness, is also of interest:

"I am all in all, and above all, so that God himself, and I, the vicar of God, have both one consistory, and I am able to do **almost all that God can do.** In all things that I list my will is to stand for reason, for I am able by the law to dispense above the law, and of wrong to make justice in correcting laws and changing them. Wherefore, if those things that I do be said not to be done of man, but of God—WHAT CAN YOU MAKE ME BUT GOD? Again, if prelates of the church be called and counted of Constantine for gods, I then, being above all prelates, seem by this reason to be ABOVE ALL GODS. Wherefore, no marvel if it be in my power to change time, and times, to alter and abrogate laws, to dispense with all things, **yea, with the precepts of Christ.**"

COUNTERFEIT MILLENNIUM.

Jehovah provided that when all the members of the bride of Christ have been selected, then the union of Christ and his bride shall take place and his Millennial reign shall begin for the blessing of mankind, which time is now near at hand. The "Seed" of promise will then begin the blessing of the families of earth. Satan brought forth his "Seed" as the counterfeit of The Christ, hoping to get ahead of God. The Pope, as the head of the system, together with his "little flock"—the clergy—asserts that the Millennial reign began in A. D. 800 and continued until the year 1800, when the system received a severe blow at the hand of Napoleon Bonaparte. The Scriptures show that at the end of Christ's Millennial reign there is to be a "little season" when Satan is to be loosed. Papacy claims that the "little season" is from the year 1800 until now. In fact, a comparison shows that **the Papal system is a counterfeit of Messiah's kingdom and that it constitutes the "Seed" of Satan, being designated in the Scriptures under the title "Babylon, the mother of harlots"; and that the Protestant systems, dominated by the clergy, constitute the "daughters."**—Revelation 17:5.

TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD CONTRASTED

The fact that God has designated these **systems** as Babylon does not mean that all the **people** in the systems are bad. On the contrary, the Lord shows that in these systems many of his true saints have been developed. **It is the system, dominated by an ambitious clergy, that the Lord designates as the "Seed" of Satan. It is the clergy who promulgate and teach the doctrines. For many centuries the clergy have supported Satan's lie: "Ye shall not surely die"—There is no death, etc.**

Both Papal and Protestant clergy have taught the doctrine of inherent immortality of all souls and the doctrine of eternal torment. The Lord's Word teaches that when a man dies he is dead. "The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23) "The soul that sinneth it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:20) When a man is dead, he is unconscious. "There is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." (Ecclesiastes 9:10) "His breath goeth forth; he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish." (Psalm, 146:4) **The "hell" of the Bible is the grave, the tomb; and all who die go to hell and remain there until the resurrection. Even Jesus went to hell (the grave, the tomb),** as plainly stated in Psalm 16:10, Acts 2:27 and elsewhere.

Without the lie of Satan it would have been absolutely impossible ever to fasten upon thinking people the doctrine of purgatory, which has been such a fruitful source of revenue for Papacy; likewise the doctrine of the mass, which the Lord himself styles as an abomination (Matthew 24:15), would have been unquestionably rejected; the doctrine of eternal torture, and other kindred doctrines, would never have been believed. By these false doctrines Satan has deceived millions and "blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."—2 Corinthians 4:4.

In order to keep the people in ignorance, Satan induced his "Seed" to enact laws limiting the use of the Bible to the clergy class. The people were not permitted to think independently and knew nothing of Bible study. The result was that darkness filled the earth and gross darkness settled down upon the people.

SATAN SEEKS DOMINION THROUGH HIS "SEED"

Early in the Christian era, church and state were united, and the Papal system assumed temporal power, and for many years the "Seed" of Satan exercised this power and dominated the world. It was an autocratic power, seeking to control the people against their own interest. **Satan has never been able to gain dominion and control where pure democracy exists. Be it noted that autocracy and wickedness and persecution go hand in hand. Thus does history record.** This unholy union is publicly acknowledged and illustrated by a famous picture in the Chapter House at Florence, Italy. The picture shows the Emperor and the Pope seated side by side upon a throne, and descending from each by steps the various officers of the empire; on the Emperor's side, generals, etc., and on the Pope's side, bishops, the clergy, etc.

WAR BETWEEN THE "SEEDS"

Jehovah's Prophet, referring to the "Seed" of Satan, particularly the Papal head, said: "He shall speak great words against Jehovah, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High." (Daniel 7:25) Every means that could possibly be thought of has been employed by the "Seed" of Satan to crush out the very spirit of true Christianity and to substitute the doctrines and forms of the Antichrist. This persistent worrying and wearing out are well illustrated in the institution of the confessional, the inquisition, secret spying systems, and other means of persecution.

Exactly in conformity to Jehovah's statement, there has ever been enmity between the "Seed" according to the promise and the "Seed of the serpent." Papal ecclesiasticism, backed by the state, or civil power of Rome, began an open and relentless persecution of the saints in the sixth century. The escutcheon of history is blackened by what followed. In 1204, the fiendish inquisition came into vogue and, in the name of religion, murder stalked about in the earth, and the blood of Christians flowed freely. This wicked persecution can be accounted for only according to the Scriptural statement as the effort of Satan to destroy the "Seed" of promise that would bring blessings to mankind. Satan used his own "Seed" in the attempt to wear out and destroy the "Seed" of promise.

THE REFORMATION

In the year 1517, the good and great Martin Luther vehemently protested against the unrighteous course pursued by the "Seed" of Satan. All students of history are familiar with the persecution that followed and how the Lord blessed Luther's efforts in establishing many of the saints of God in the true faith. The Protestant church was established; **but with its establishment the Adversary again sowed his seeds of wickedness, and in the course of time, ambitious clergymen in all the Protestant systems were teaching Satan's first and famous lie—the doctrine of inherent immortality and the kindred doctrine of eternal torture, mixing politics and religion, civil with ecclesiastical powers; and thus Satan developed his "Seed" in the Protestant system amongst the true saints of God.** The persecution of others in the name of religion is too well known to our readers to need repetition here. God permitted all this persecution for a good purpose. It resulted in the development of true and loyal servants of the Lord, who by these trying experiences have demonstrated their love for God and for his cause of righteousness above everything else. They have thus been enabled to develop and manifest a character pleasing to the Lord, and such as he will be able to use in carrying blessings to the groaning creation.

For a thousand years, Satan exercised a free hand in controlling the kings of earth through his "Seed," the Papacy. The rapid development of Protestantism after 1800 A. D. greatly interfered with his operations. The year 1878 marked the time when Christ Jesus would begin the exercise of his divine power, preparatory to his reign. It was in that very year that the gathering together of the truly consecrated began—the harvest of the Gospel age. That faithful and wise servant of the Lord, Pastor Charles T. Russell, then began boldly to proclaim the truth as it had not been proclaimed since the days of the apostles. The very keynote to God's wonderful plan of salvation is the ransom sacrifice—that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man. (1 Timothy 2:5, 6; Hebrews 2:9). Pastor Russell plainly proved from the Scriptures that death is the result of sin; that the only way that leads to life is through the merit of the sacrifice of our Lord; that the "Seed" of promise, the Church, has been in course of development during the Gospel age, and when finished, restitution blessings will be offered to all the remainder of mankind through this "Seed." God used him to turn thousands of people back to the Bible and to bring comfort to their hearts. Since then, Pastor Russell and those joining with him in this work have gladly, at a sacrifice to themselves, sent the Gospel message to all parts of the world. **This has greatly angered Satan; and for the past twenty years he has specially pitted his "Seed" against these faithful followers of the great Master. Satan has united practically all denominations in persecuting Pastor Russell and his associates. He has diligently employed the Clergy, a Catholic Secret Order, and other similar organizations in this persecution throughout the earth.**

THE KAISER AND THE POPE.

Satan realized that he must, if possible, get the Papacy back into power. Austria was already dominated by the Papacy. **Satan now saw a willing tool in the autocratic German Kaiser. Twenty years ago, Emperor William declared his purpose of restoring the Pope to his original power.** His statement at that time, given wide publication by the press, was published by Pastor Russell in **The Watch Tower,** as follows:

"Emperor Wilhelm of Germany in a recent speech is reported to have said:

"The Pope is the spiritual ruler of the largest communion on earth, and he is by far the most powerful and authoritative of spiritual rulers. His word is promptly and willingly obeyed by hundreds of millions of people spread throughout the globe. He can order and direct the consciences of these multitudes. He can say: These are your religious tenets; those must be your social sentiments; and suddenly he is obeyed. His power therefore for good is immeasurable.

"Kings and emperors are the divinely ordained guardians of social order and directors of social well-being, just as the leaders of religious bodies are the divinely ordained moderators of conscience. But just as kings and emperors can have their beneficent influence in the religious order, so can spiritual guides help and promote the social weal.

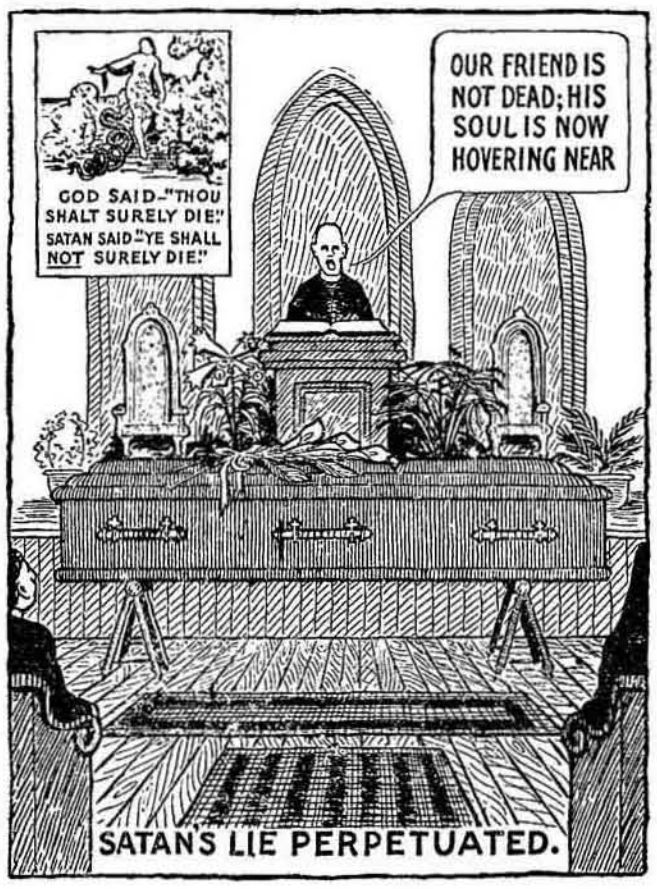
"The Pope's range of power is the vastest of all, and consequently the possibilities of the good he may do are the most far-reaching. **I think it imperative therefore that he be put in a position to freely accomplish all the good of which he is capable. He must be liberated from his self-imposed imprisonment in the Vatican. All the trammels that surround and harass him in his daily life must be removed, so that he will then be at liberty to fight the common enemies, Socialism and irreligion. Then he will be in a position to make his voice heard in the interests of peace, when nations go to war without just motive, and in the interest of humanity, when acts of cruelty or injustice are being anywhere committed.**

"I have meditated long and deeply on this subject. The fact that it preoccupies me so much convinces me that **I am inspired to take action in the matter.** It is like one of the voices that Socrates had about him **which whispers in my ear that this also is my mission to** remedy the Pope's position and open up the field for his range of well-doing. It daily urges me to act. Whether I shall succeed or not it is beyond my power to foretell. Judging from the circumstances, there is every evidence that success should not be outside the bounds of possibility. I am going to do my utmost, and more than this no man can do.

"I feel for the moment that I have no other concrete and practical mission before me. To succeed in such an undertaking would be a climax and a crowning worthy of any man's life. As I say, I will energetically attempt it. The **small preternatural voice** unmistakably spurs me on, and I think than this no better augury of success could be desired.

"For this moment I can say no more, and it does not behoove me to be too explicit about my plans. They are already laid, and my immediate actions will be a development of them. Their result will be their justification, and it will also be the justification of many acts in the past, which may have seemed strange and unaccountable to my good Protestant subjects, but which had their motive and their origin in a desire to accomplish great and enduring events.

"I shall not die until my ends in this regard are attained. Death otherwise would find a void in my existence; and I feel within me that I have not been born in vain."


GOD SAID-"THOU SHALT SURELY DIE."
SATAN SAID-"YE SHALL NOT SURELY DIE!"
OUR FRIEND IS NOT DEAD; HIS SOUL IS NOW HOVERING NEAR
SATAN'S LIE PERPETUATED.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

The recent action of the Pope, when the German autocrat was driving back the armies of Italy, is good proof that the Papal head and the Kaiser have an understanding. The numerous attempts of the Pope to bring about peace is another proof of such understanding, and that he is trying to carry out exactly what Emperor William set forth in the above statement. **Furthermore, close observing people have for years noticed the desire of Papacy to control American institutions. We now warn the American people who love liberty and religious freedom to beware of the subtle power of the Papacy, working under cover, to control America through its various channels and organizations. It is the work of the wily Adversary. Thousands of good people in the Protestant churches of America have been asleep, while their shepherds—the clergy—ambitious for power and recognition, have been deliberately selling them into the hands of the Papacy.** Hence the combined forces of the Catholic and Protestant systems, constituting the "Seed" of Satan, join in the persecution of those who now proclaim the truth, and be it known that this persecution on their part will increase to the extent of their power. But before they accomplish all their wicked purposes, we deem it a duty to sound this solemn warning to the people.

WHAT IS BABYLON?

The word "Babylon" originally meant **gateway to God.** Afterward, in derision, it came to signify confusion, because at Babel the language of men was confused. The ancient city of Babylon typed Mystic Babylon. Mystic Babylon is described in Revelation 17: 1-6 as "Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." The Papal system is the mother of harlots. The term "mother of harlots" signifies her daughters are likewise harlots. In the larger sense, then, the word applies to ecclesiasticism as a whole—the Catholic and Protestant systems—not the people. **Harlotry means the unlawful relationship between ecclesiastical and civil powers.** The Lord here foretold that the "Seed of the serpent" would spill the blood of the true saints, saying, "I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." Throughout the greater part of the Gospel age, the "Seed of the woman," the saints, have been in captivity to Babylon. Many are still there, and to these we sound this warning. The Lord foretold that the separation and deliverance would take place at the end of the Gospel age, which is designated as a harvest time. This harvest began, according to the Scripture chronology, in 1878. Since then, the true saints of the Lord, whether in the Papal or Protestant systems, have been fleeing out of Babylon and being gathered by the Lord into a condition of closer fellowship with him.

DEMONS IN BABYLON

The Scriptures also indicate that there will be marvellous activity amongst the demons at the end of the Gospel age. We are now in that time. Jesus declared their deceptions would be such that, if it were possible, even the elect (the promised "Seed") would be deceived. But God will not permit this deception to prevail. Referring to the close of the age, the Revelator said, "Babylon the great is fallen, **and is become the habitation of devils" (demons).** (Revelation 18:2) These demons, working under Satan, the chief of devils, have found a fertile field of operation in Babylon. It is a well-known fact that the Czar of Russia was under the wicked influence of the demons, who operated on his mind for years through Rasputin the pro-German medium to betray and wreck Russia in favor of the Kaiser. The Czar was head of the Greek Church, a part of Babylon—a part of the "Seed" of Satan. The foregoing statement of the Kaiser shows that **he hears the voice of the demons speaking to him,** which spurs him on to make a great effort to restore the Pope to temporal power.

In recent years **clergymen** have been accepting spiritualism, or demonism. Bishop Fallows, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, discussing it recently, says: "In the years to come the science of communication with the dead will be made a part of the curriculum of great educational institutions. I have called the new science 'Immortalism' because it depends for its existence upon the immortality of the soul, in which we all believe, and the preservation of identity beyond the grave." Both Catholic and Protestant systems adhere strictly to the doctrine of inherent immortality. They now adopt spiritualism, claiming to communicate with the dead, as conclusive proof of their position. **By doing this, they accept the lie that Satan told—"Ye shall not surely die"—and deny God and Jesus and the teachings of all the apostles.**

Accepting the devil's falsehood, many men of great mental capacity have been deceived; among them such men as Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir A. Conan Doyle, Stead, Funk, Crookes, Meyers, Gurney, Hodgson, and many others. They get responses from the ouija board, the planchette; they hear voices and mark many other phenomena, which "proves" to them that they are communicating with the dead. Without a doubt they see and hear all this demonstration, **but they are not communicating with the spirits of dead men. They are communicating with the evil demons above described.** The honesty of these men is not questioned, yet their "proof" falls flat if we accept the Bible as true. **The great majority of the clergy of Babylon, however, are higher critics and evolutionists, and therefore repudiate the inspiration of the Scriptures and refuse the Bible's testimony.** William E. Coleman in *The Progressive Thinker*, the chief organ of Spiritualism in America, says: "Spiritualism detroys all fear of death. Death is shown to be a **blessing."** To this the clergy agree. The Bible, on the contrary, says that death is an **enemy:** "He[Christ] must reign till he hath put all enemies under his feet; the **last enemy** that shall be destroyed is **death."** (1 Corinthians 15:25, 26) Further quoting Mr. Coleman: "The dogmas of the vicarious atonement and the forgiveness of sins are overthrown by Spiritualism." Satan has always sought to overthrow this vital truth. **The overwhelming majority of modern clergymen reject the doctrine of the vicarious atonement, denying that the blood of Jesus bought the human race.** Continuing, Mr. Coleman says: "Liberal Christianity, Universalism, Unitarianism, etc., sorely wounded the devil, but Spiritualism completely killed him and buried him out of sight, beyond all hope of resurrection." And this most of the clergymen accept as truth, denying the existence of a personal devil even as they do of a personal Savior. Thus the devil is practising "camouflage" by making it appear that he no longer exists, **while in reality he is playing his last card in his effort to deceive and to destroy the "Seed" of promise. Satan knows we have reached the end of the world. He is making his last desperate stand to control the earth. He is using all the members of his "Seed" in this titanic effort. Through the Pope and the Kaiser he seeks to overrun the world. He plays his children, the clergy, to deceive and draw away the minds of the people from the Bible. His subjects, the demons, now being loosed from prison, and inhabiting Babylon, will produce a great cataclysm; and every nation that is controlled by Satan's "Seed" will fall into the "great tribulation" foretold by our Lord.**

THEIR JUDGMENT

As above shown, the judgment of these demons must take place at the end of the age. That judgment is now at hand; for the end of the age is here. The mighty men of Babylon (the clergy), having repudiated the Bible, God has permitted the demons to find in them a ready medium of operation. The enmity between the "Seed" of Satan and the "Seed of the woman" has reached a climax. The demons, finding a habitation in the minds of those who control Babylon and who constitute the "Seed" of Satan, will exercise their every power to destroy the "Seed" of promise. Many will be surprised that the orthodox clergy of our day are thus ensnared. We are reminded that the clergy of Jesus' day find a parallel in the present time. **The ecclesiastics of the Jewish system, the scribes and Pharisees, are duplicated in the clergy of the ecclesiastical systems of our time. These have denied the words of the Master, the blood of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead.** They say the dead are not dead, and therefore cannot be resurrected; and since man is a creature of evolution, as they claim, they thereby deny the necessity of a ransomer. They have accepted Satan's lie in preference to God's truth. To them Jesus says, therefore: "Why do you not understand my speech? Even because you cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it." (John 8:43, 44) Here Jesus definitely locates the class composing the "Seed" of Satan.

THE HEEL TO BE BRUISED

Jehovah said that the "Seed of the Serpent" would bruise the **heel** of the "Seed of the woman." The "heel" means the last members of the body of Christ on earth—the last to pass within the vail of death. The world has now ended. The last members of the body of Christ have been sealed; and soon all will have finished their course. The Scriptures clearly indicate that Satan and his cohorts, the demons, inhabiting Babylon, will use his "Seed"—the willing ones of Babylon—to bruise the **heel** of the "Seed" of promise. The time is about due when these demons, taking possession and control of the systems, will so inflame the minds of the clergy that they will endeavor to enlist the civil authorities in the persecution of any one who dares call their theories in question. And failing thus to accomplish their purpose, they will then incite the lawless to mob-violence, in utter disregard of law and order. Controlling the minds of those who remain in Babylon, the demons will induce them to believe that the destruction of Christians is not only justifiable, but the same as doing God service. Satan and the demons will take a fiendish delight in the killing of Christians, believing that at last success has crowned the efforts of the "Seed of the serpent" against the "Seed of the woman' according to God's promise.

But again Satan will be defeated; because the **death of the saintly ones will be their triumph.** As the Apostle declares, they shall not sleep, but shall be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. They shall be "caught away" (literally, removed by violence) to meet the Lord and be forever with him.—1 Corinthians 15:51, 52; 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

The last members of the church having been taken away, the peoples of the world will awaken to the fact that the nominal church system (Babylon) is the "Seed" of Satan; and then, as shown by the Scriptures, "a mighty angel [the common people] took up a stone like a great millstone [temporarily elevated ecclesiasticism to great heights] and cast it into the sea" (overwhelmed ecclesiasticism in a great time of destruction). This is the final cataclysm or time of trouble to which the Prophet Daniel referred and which Jesus also mentioned.—See Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21.

CAUSE OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Once understanding the two seeds—the "Seed of the woman' and the "Seed of the serpent"—and that there has been enmity and conflict between them from Eden until now, **all religious intolerance and persecution in the name of religion is made clear.** Millions of honest people have been duped by Satan's deceptive schemes. These facts are set forth calmly and dispassionately, and not with any feeling of enmity; they are not stated to injure any one, but that the people may be enlightened at this time of great crisis. Every Christian will put away any feeling of animosity and hatred, and realizing the cause of conditions in the earth, will rejoice at the evidence of the near complete triumph of the "Seed" of promise—The Christ. The kingdom of heaven is at hand!

GLIMPSES OF GLORY

Turn your mind away from the scenes of carnage and destruction, persecution, wickedness and sorrow, and by the eye of faith behold the longed-for kingdom of God coming into power. Looking ahead a little, we see Satan bound; the demons forever destroyed; wickedness and crime no more permitted. The law goes forth from The Christ and the word of God from Jerusalem. The people are turned to peaceful vocations; they beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. No more shall they know war. The dead are being resurrected and are returning from the land of the enemy—the condition of death. They are coming to Christ with songs of everlasting joy upon their heads, and sorrow and sighing are fleeing away. (Isaiah 2:2-4; 35:1-10) The grand finale of this wonderful drama marks the close of the Millennial reign of Christ. Every man in all the earth, or that has ever lived on the earth, shall have had a fair and impartial trial for life; the wilfully wicked destroyed forever; and the obedient ones fully restored to health, strength, perfection of body and mind, and their hearts filled with joy.

WHY THE CHURCHES FAILED

The peoples of earth are now in the great transitory period. The greatest crisis of all time is upon the human race. Many are asking, Why has Christianity failed? Why should this great war come when we have so many churches and like organizations? The answer is found in the fact that **Christians in the church systems have been overreached by Satan, and his "Seed" has there predominated and controlled. The clergy have repudiated the Bible, they have turned the people away from it; their religion has been merely a veneer and could not regenerate the heart.** The spirit of Christ alone can bring regeneration.

But let no true Christian at this hour be discouraged or dismayed. It is a time for all such to be calm and sober-minded, to watch and pray. Be strong in faith, and remember the Master's words: "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved." To the order-loving people of the world the Prophet of the Lord says: "Seek meekness, seek righteousness; it may be that ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." Go quickly to your Bible and prove that the foregoing statement is true; and learning it to be true, you will be able to see, shining beyond the darkness that now enshrouds the earth, the light of hope, the Messianic Kingdom.

KINGDOM PROPHECY FULFILLED

The disciples asked the Lord Jesus what would be the proof of the end of the world (or age), of his second coming, and of the setting up of his kingdom. He cited many things as proof in answer to their question; one of the strongest being that when the Jews returned to Jerusalem, such would be certain proof that his kingdom was being set up. Referring to the Jews, he said: "They shall fall by the edge of the sword and shall be led away captive into all nations; and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles **until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."**

The "Gentile times" have ended and the Jews have returned to Palestine exactly on time. The Scriptures show a parallel between the Jewish and the Gospel ages. The Jewish age began with the death of Jacob; and God's favor began to be withdrawn from the Israelites at the time of the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem in 33 A.D.—exactly 1845 years after the birth of the Jewish nation. Forty years later, in the Spring of 73 A.D., the last bulwark of Israel's liberty fell. By the mouth of three prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Zachariah, God foretold that the Jews would be cast off and remain out of God's favor the same length of time that they had enjoyed his favor. Counting, then, 1845 years from 33 A.D. (the time they began to lose God's favor), brings us to 1873 A.D., which marks the end of the "double" or duplication of time and the date when his favor should begin to return to them.

Exactly on time, in June 1878, the Berlin Congress convened, over which D'Israeli (Lord Beaconsfield), a Jew, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, presided. The treaty arranged at that gathering resulted in Turkey granting to the orthodox Jews certain civil and religious privileges in Palestine which they had not enjoyed from the time they were driven out by the Romans.

Shortly thereafter, the Zionist movement was organized, the object of which has been to regain possession of Palestine and reestablish the Jews. At the beginning of the war, the Zionists insisted that they should be taken into consideration whenever a treaty would be made. When the Allied armies captured Jerusalem from the Turks, the British Government, through its cabinet, expressed a willingness for the Jews to establish an independent government in Palestine. This desire was concurred in by the United States. Early in March, 1918, a commission sailed from London with the expectation of landing in Jerusalem and beginning the new government on the 27th day of March, the Jewish Passover anniversary; and that commission is now in Palestine establishing the government. Many thousand orthodox Jews have returned to Palestine. Mark, then, the exact parallel: 1878 the beginning of the return of favor; exactly forty years afterward the Jews are back in Palestine. The Kingdom of Heaven, for which Christians have long prayed, is here! Within a few years everybody will recognize it. There is a special blessing for those who accept it early.

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